

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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TAGS: MARR PFOR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL FOR
CONFLICT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU

1. THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT IN CHILE BY
A STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST MILITARY JUNTA AND THE RECENT
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PURCHASE OF SOVIET TANKS BY PERU HAVE REINFORCED TRADITIONAL

RIVALRIES AND MISTRUST BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU. INCREASING EMPHASIS ON ARMS ACQUISITION AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING BY BOTH COUNTRIES FOR POSSIBLE HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THEM HAVE STIMULATED HIGH-LEVEL US INTEREST IN THE SECURITY SITUATION IN WESTERN SOUTH AMERICA AND ITS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY DIMENSIONS. THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN TASKED TO PRODUCE A COORDINATED NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

2. THE PRINCIPAL FOCUS OF THE PAPER WOULD BE ON CHILE AND PERU. IT WOULD BE IN FOUR PARTS:

A) PERCEPTIONS OF CONFLICT--HISTORICAL ANTAGONISMS BETWEEN CHILE, PERU, AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, THEIR CURRENT ATTITUDES TOWARD EACH OTHER, PERCEPTIONS OF ONE ANOTHER'S INTENTIONS, AND THE MOTIVATIONS FOR ARMS ACQUISITIONS, DIPLOMATIC MANEUVERINGS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES BY EACH THAT APPEAR AGGRESSIVE TO THE OTHER.

B) RECENT AND PENDING ARMS ACQUISITIONS, CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR POSSIBLE HOSTILITIES, AND A COMPARISON OF MILITARY CAPABILITIES.

C) INFLUENCE OF EXTERNAL ALLIANCES AND ALIGNMENTS ON POLICIES AND POWER POSITIONS OF CHILE AND PERU.

D) FUTURE PROSPECTS--THE LIKELIHOOD OF ARMS RESTRAINT VERSUS ADDITIONAL LARGE SCALE ARMS ACQUISITIONS, THE POTENTIAL FOR EVENTUAL CONFRONTATION OR HOSTILITIES. THE ROLE AND INFLUENCE OF EXTERNAL FORCES, MOST LIKELY SCENARIOS FOR CONTINUED TENSIONS, HOSTILITIES, OR RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS, AND IMPLICATIONS FOR US.

3. PAST COUNTRY TEAM (CT) REPORTING ON THESE SUBJECTS HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE AND EXCELLENT, AND IS MUCH APPRECIATED. THE DRAFTERS OF THE ASSESSMENT WILL RELY HEAVILY ON THAT REPORTING.

4. FOR LIMA AND SANTIAGO: TO AID IN THE PREPARATION OF THE ASSESSMENT, THE CT IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ITS VIEWS
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ON THE GENERAL TOPICS IN PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE. ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON CHILE AND PERU WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY TO AMEMBASSY LIMA AND AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO. PAST REPORTING ON A PARTICULAR TOPIC, IF APPROPRIATE, SHOULD BE REFERENCED BUT NEED NOT BE REPEATED.

TENTATIVE PLANS ARE TO HAVE A FIRST DRAFT COMPLETED IN APPROXIMATELY SIX WEEKS. THUS, AN EARLY RESPONSE--WITHIN

TWO WEEKS IF POSSIBLE--WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

5. FOR ASUNCION, BOGOTA, BRASILIA, BUENOS AIRES, CARACAS, LA PAZ, MONTEVIDEO, AND QUITO: WOULD APPRECIATE CT VIEWS ON PARAGRAPH 2 C) AND D) ABOVE AND ANY COMMENTS THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL ASSESSMENT. PLEASE INCLUDE LIMA AND SANTIAGO AS INFO ADDRESSEES. SPECIFICALLY,

A) WHAT IS THE NATURE OF YOUR COUNTRY'S RELATIONS WITH PERU AND CHILE?

B) WHAT EFFECT HAS PERU'S ACQUISITION OF SOVIET TANKS AND OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAD ON POLITICAL AND MILITARY ATTITUDES IN YOUR COUNTRY?

C) WHAT NEW CONSIDERATIONS ENTER INTO FORMULATION OF POLICIES TOWARD THE CHILE-PERU RIVALRY, E.G., PROSPECTS

OF A DEVELOPING SOVIET ROLE AS ARMS SUPPLIER TO THE AREA, FEAR OF AN ARMS RACE, SENSITIVITY TO THIRD WORLD PRESSURES, DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS?

D) IN THE EVENT OF A CONTINUING DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU, OR A CONFRONTATION OR EVENTUAL OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THEM:

1) WHAT POSITION WOULD EACH GOVERNMENT BE LIKELY TO TAKE TOWARD PERU AND CHILE? WOULD IT TEND TO SUPPORT ONE COUNTRY AGAINST ANOTHER? IN WHAT WAY? TO WHAT DEGREE?

2) WHAT ACTIONS--DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND MILITARY--MIGHT SUCH EVENTS PRECIPITATE?

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3) WHAT WOULD BE THE IMPACT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS? ON REGIONAL RELATIONS?

4) WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT ON EACH COUNTRY'S OWN ARMS ACQUISITION PLANS? KISSINGER

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